**Sustainability Learnings from the NHS   
Stan Krpan**

It’s an incredibly important time in both health and sustainability and, today, we’ll be exploring the intersection of the two. I wanted to commend, really, the leadership of the Department of Health and Human Services and their internal champions, so, Tiernan Humphrys and Sarah Bending, who have organised today. As I said, incredibly important time and today is a very timely discussion to, I think, to explore the intersection of sustainability and health.

In 2015, as is known to all of us, in Paris, more than 190 countries, including Australia, committed to play their part and to keep global temperature rises to under 2 degrees and the Victorian Government, since then, was the first state in the country to legislate a commitment to a net zero carbon target by 2050, since followed in New South Wales, with an administrative commitment in the ACT and South Australia. Sustainability Victoria’s social research of a thousand Victorian demonstrates that 93% of Victorians understand climate change as a serious issue and 91% of them also support government leadership, in relation to climate change. Of course, sustainability is much broader but APRA, the Australian Stock Exchange, the Bloomberg Taskforce on Financial Disclosure for Climate Change and Climate Risk have all recommended that private companies and boards undertake climate risk assessments that explore the risks and opportunities to commence the disclose those from a corporate perspective publicly.

Last year, one of the preeminent corporate QCs in the country, Noel Hutley, published a public legal advice, which effective said that it was inevitable that eventually corporate directors on boards in public companies would be sued for negligence for a failure to assess and respond to the risks of climate change from a corporate governance perspective. That trend is continuing unabated.

The Victorian government, recently, two weeks ago, released the social procurement framework, which adopts environmental sustainable development considerations in procurements over a million dollars, I meant for $20 million some hardwired commitments to explore particular environmental sustainability aspects including emissions, energy reduction, recycled content and the SD practices from companies providing services in supply chains. Increasingly, global attention on the links between environment, climate change and health are being explored from a research perspective and this is in addition to all the other pressure that exists for the boards of hospitals and health services and, of course, those in government and bureaucrats and it’s in addition to the trends in both health and clinical care in a population growth setting, where infrastructure, new builds, a growth in demand and pressure on budgets is continuing.

Health, as I said, is at the intersection of these developments and today we’ll be exploring a number of difference perspectives.